

Where did you hear about this competition?	Please tick
• Direct contact from Cannon Poets	
• <i>The Cannon's Mouth</i> Magazine	
• Cannon Poets Website	
• Orbis Competition Bulletin	
• Entry form from Public Library	
• Other [please specify]	

## Cannon Poets

Established in 1983, Cannon Poets meet monthly in Moseley, Birmingham. They also arrange workshops, readings and displays of members' work and produce a quarterly magazine, *The Cannon's Mouth*.

To view some of the previous competition winners and see more information about Cannon Poets and its activities please see our website:

[www.cannonpoets.org.uk](http://www.cannonpoets.org.uk)

**Enter and pay on line or post completed form with poems and correct fee to:**

**Cannon Poets,  
22 Margaret Grove,  
Harborne,  
Birmingham  
B17 9JH**

# Sonnet or Not

## Cannon Poets Poetry Competition 2020

Cannon Poets are pleased to announce this year's popular **Sonnet or Not** Poetry competition. You are invited to write a poem or poems of just fourteen lines in length. You may choose any one of the traditional sonnet forms, or experiment with alternative 14 line forms perhaps using half rhyme, metarhyme or blank verse.

### Prizes:

First Prize: **£500**; Second Prize: **£250**; Third Prize: **£150** and up to **10 Highly Recommended Prizes: £10**. All prize winners also receive a free one year subscription to *The Cannon's Mouth*.

### Special Offer:

Submit at least one poem with the correct fee to become eligible for one year subscription to *The Cannon's Mouth* discounted from the usual £13.00 to £11.00 [UK] or from £22 to £20 [outside UK].

### Entries:

An entry will consist of one 14 line poem. Please ensure that each entry has its own title. There is no limit to the number of entries providing the fees are paid. The entry fee is £5.00 for the first poem and £2.50 for each additional poem submitted. You can enter **by post** using the entry form or **on line**: go to: [www.cannonpoets.org.uk](http://www.cannonpoets.org.uk) then go to the **competitions** page and follow the instructions.

**Please carefully read the Rules of Entry overleaf.**

### Sole Judge: Roy McFarlane

Roy McFarlane was born in Birmingham of Jamaican parentage and has spent most of his years living in Wolverhampton. He has held the role of Birmingham's Poet Laureate [2010 to 2011] and Starbucks' Poet in Residence, and is currently the Birmingham & Midland Institute's Poet in Residence. His publications include: *Beginning with your last breath* Nine Arches Press (Summer 2016); *The Healing Next Time*, Nine Arches Press (2018); *Ten Black British Poets from the Midlands* compiled by Eric Doumerc & Roy McFarlane.

Roy will read all valid entries received.



**The closing date for entries is 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020**

# Sonnet or Not [2020] Poetry Competition

## Rules of Entry

### GENERAL

1. The closing date of the competition is midnight (UK time), **31st October 2020**.
2. The competition is open to anyone aged 18 or over at the time of entering.
3. International entries are welcome but all entries must be in English.
4. Under no circumstances can alterations be submitted once poems have been entered.
5. The judge's decision is final and neither the judge nor Cannon Poets will enter into any correspondence.
6. No person involved in the judging process is eligible to enter the Competition.
7. No entrant may win more than one prize.

### POEMS

8. There is no limit on the number of entries a single entrant can make.
9. Entries will not be returned, so please keep a copy.
10. All entries are judged anonymously and the poet's name must not appear on the poem itself.
11. All poems must have a title and must have 14 lines (excluding title).
12. Entries can be on any subject.
13. Poems must be the original work of the entrant.
14. Entries must not have been published, self-published, published on a website or broadcast.

### FEES

15. The first poem submitted costs **£5.00**. Subsequent entries in the same submission cost **£2.50** per poem.
16. Payments must be made in £ sterling. Entries accompanied by payment in a currency other than £ sterling will not be accepted.

### ENTERING ON LINE

17. To enter on line go to [www.cannonpoets.org.uk/competitions](http://www.cannonpoets.org.uk/competitions) and follow the instructions.
18. Payment and submissions may be made directly from the site by Paypal or credit/debit card.
19. There is no facility for submitting by separate email.

### ENTERING BY POST

20. Each poem should be on a separate sheet of A4 paper, typed or word processed in no smaller than 12 point typeface, and must include ONLY the poem and its title. Do not include your name.
21. A completed entry form and cheque for the correct fee must accompany all postal submissions. Photocopied entrance forms are acceptable.
22. Cheque/postal orders should be made payable to **Cannon Poets**. Please write your name and phone number on the back of cheques.
23. If you would like confirmation that your postal entry has been received and/or notification of results, please include a stamped addressed envelope/postcard with your entry. See bottom of entry form. Telephone or email confirmation of receipt is not available. If you supply your email address, you will be notified of the results.
24. The postal address is: **Cannon Poets, 22 Margaret Grove, Harborne, Birmingham. B17 9JH**

### WINNERS

25. Prize winners will be notified by 31st December 2020
26. Authors of the winning poems, by entering the competition, grant Cannon Poets the right to publish and/or broadcast their poem for one year from date of presentation. The copyright of each poem remains with the author. Winning poems will be published in *The Cannon's Mouth* and later on the Cannon Poets website. Use of the poems elsewhere during this time is subject to acknowledgement of the poem's success in the Cannon Poets *Sonnet or Not* Competition. Copyright of each poem stays with the author.

**Cannon Poets website: [www.cannonpoets.org.uk](http://www.cannonpoets.org.uk)**

# ENTRY FORM Cannon Poets 2020 Poetry Competition

First name	<b>OFFICE USE ONLY</b>
Surname or Family Name	Author Number
Contact Address	No. of poems submitted
Postcode	Amount paid £
Telephone (daytime)	Eligible
Email [for automatic notification of results]	Not Eligible [Reason]
<b>Title of Poem</b>	<b>[£5 for first entry, £2.50 each additional poem]</b>
	£ 5.00
	£
	£
	£
<i>The Cannon's Mouth</i> special offer subscription @ £11.00 [UK] or £20.00 [outside the UK]	£
<b>TOTAL</b>	£

Method of payment: Cheque [£ Sterling only]  / Postal Order [payable to Cannon Poets]  / Cash  / Other  [**tick one**]. **Do not send cash by post.**

*I give consent for information supplied by me to be used for the purposes of Cannon Poets. I also understand that Cannon Poets will only use my information for the purpose for which it is supplied unless prior consent is obtained. I have read and understood Cannon Poets Privacy Statement. I confirm I am aged 18 years or over.*

Signed: ..... Date: .....

- Please **acknowledge my entry** by post [Endorsed SAE / postcard enclosed.]
- Please **supply a list of winning entries** by post [SAE enclosed.]